

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A position information acquiring system to
allow a user to acquire position information of a
communication terminal by accessing a private network
via a public network, wherein the private network
comprises;

a user information server provided with a user
information database containing a field to which the
user sets up public information to release the position
information of the communicating terminal, and
configured to search the user information database to
check whether or not to release the position
information when the user requests to acquire the
position information of the communication terminal,
and,

a terminal position information management server
to acquire the position of the communication terminal
to send it to the user information server when
receiving a notice from the user information server
that the position information can be released.

2. The position information acquiring system
according to claim 1, wherein the user information
database contains a group field capable of setting up
group information to group communicating parties listed
in the user information database and the public
information is set up corresponding to each group.

3. The position information acquiring system

according to claim 1, wherein the user information database contains a schedule field to which the user can set up the user's own schedule information and the public information is set up corresponding to each
5 schedule.

4. The position information acquiring system according to claim 1, wherein the user information database contains an information release area set up field to which the user can set up user's own position
10 information and the public information is set up corresponding to each release area.

5. A position information acquiring system to allow a user to acquire position information of a communication terminal by accessing a private network via a public network, wherein the private network
15 comprises;

a user information server provided with a user information database containing a user-by-user search area condition set up field to which the user can set up an area to search the position of the communicating terminal and a field to which information is set up to indicate whether or not to acquire the position
20 information corresponding to each search area, and configured to search the user information database to check the availability to acquire the position
25 information when the user requests to acquire the position information of the communication terminal, and

a terminal position information management server to acquire the position information of each communication terminal thereby to send the position information to the user information server when 5 receiving a notice from the user information server that the position information is acquirable.

6. A position information acquiring system to allow a user to acquire position information of a communication terminal by accessing a private network 10 via a public network, wherein the private network comprises;

a user-by-user user attribute set up database to which the user can set up the user's own user attributes,

15 a user-by-user user attribute condition set up database to which the user can set up user attribute conditions for a communicating party and containing a field to which the user sets up public information to release the position information depending upon the 20 corresponding user attribute conditions,

25 a user information server to search the user attribute condition set up database to check the availability to release the position information when the user requests to acquire the position information of the communication terminal, and

a terminal position information management server to acquire the position information of each

communication terminal to send it to the user information server when receiving a notice from the user information server that the position information is acquirable.

5 7. A position information acquiring method to allow a user to acquire position information of a communication terminal by accessing a private network via a public network comprises,

10 a step of searching by a user information server a user information database containing a field to which the user sets up public information to release the position information when the user requests to acquire the position information of the communication terminal, and checking the availability of the release of the 15 position information, and

20 a step of acquiring the position information of each communication terminal via the terminal position information management server to send it to the user information server when receiving a notice from the user information server that the position information 25 is acquirable.

8. The position information acquiring method according to claim 7, wherein the user information database contains a group field to which information to group the communicating parties listed in the user information database is set up, and the public information is set up corresponding to each group.

9. The position information acquiring method according to claim 7, wherein the user information database contains a schedule field to which each user is set up the user's own schedule information, and the public information is set up corresponding to each schedule.

10 10. The position information acquiring method according to claim 7, wherein the user information database contains a release area set up field to which each user set up the release area for releasing the user's own position information, and the public information is set up corresponding to each release area.

15 11. A position information acquiring method to allow a user to acquire position information of a communication terminal by accessing a private network via a public network comprises,

20 a step of searching by a user information server a user information database, which contains an user-by-user search area condition set up field, to which each user can set up an area for searching the position of a communicating terminal when the user requests to acquire the position information of the communication terminal and a field to which public information indicating whether or not to acquire the position information corresponding to each search area is set up, and checking the availability to acquire the

position information, and,

a step of acquiring the position information of each communication terminal via the terminal position information management server and then to send it to the user information server when receiving a notice from the user information server that the position information is acquirable.

12. A position information acquiring method to allow a user to acquire position information of a communication terminal by accessing a private network via a public network comprises,

a step of searching by a user information server a user-by-user user attribute set up database, to which each user can set up the user's own attribute when each user requests to acquire the position information of a communication terminal, and a user-by-user user attribute condition set up database, to which each user can set up the user attribute condition and which contains a field to which the user sets up public information to release the position information depending upon the corresponding user attribute condition, and checking the availability to release the position information, and,

25 a step of acquiring the position information of each communication terminal via the terminal position information management server and then to send it to the user information server when receiving a notice

from the user information server that the position
information should be released.